

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION INFORMATION LETTER

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DUTY ON GREEN BEANS TO BE INCREASED

The President has approved the report of the Tariff Commission recommending that the duty on fresh green peas be increased from 3 cents to 3.9 cents per pound. The new rate of duty becomes effective January 1. At the same time the duty on fresh green peppers will be reduced from 3 cents to 2.5 cents per pound and on eggplants from 3 cents to 1.5 cents per pound. No changes will be made on the duty on pineapples, fresh tomatoes, snap beans, cucumbers, okra and lima beans.

The rates of duty applying on these vegetables, when imported from Cuba, are 20 per cent less than those shown, by virtue of the reciprocity convention with Cuba.

The Tariff Commission has issued the following detailed summary of the reports on each of the fresh vegetables included in the investigations.

TOMATOES

Imports of tomatoes come from Mexico, Cuba and the Bahamas and are delivered in the United States mostly during December to April, inclusive. Mexico has been supplying 80 per cent of the imports during recent years and is, therefore, the chief competing country. An average of 5,500 carloads of imported tomatoes are received during the months named as compared with domestic production in the same months of about 4,500 carloads. New York City is by far the largest market for domestic and imported tomatoes, receiving annually during the five-month period over 1,700 carloads of imports, one-third from Mexico and two-thirds from Cuba and the Bahamas, and about 3,400 carloads of domestic tomatoes. Chicago, the second largest market, receives annually over 500 carloads from Mexico and about 700 carloads of domestic tomatoes within the period mentioned.

Domestic cost data were obtained in Broward, Dade, and Collier Counties, Florida, which areas produce 90 per cent of the tomatoes usually marketed during the period, December to May, and foreign costs were secured on the west coast of Mexico at Mochis, Sinaloa, and Culiacan, which areas produce over 90 per cent of the Mexican production.

The commission found that the cost of producing tomatoes in Florida during the two years covered was 8.5 cents per pound delivered at New York, against 5.9 cents for the imported product. For tomatoes delivered at Chicago, the costs were 8.9 cents for the domestic and 5.6 cents for the imported.

The commission did not find conditions of production normal and representative in either Florida or Mexico. Because of cold weather and ex-

cess rain, the yield in Florida reached the unusually low figure of 165 lugs per acre in 1930-31 against a 7-season average of 209 lugs per acre. In Mexico there was an unusually high yield of 132 lugs per acre in 1929-30 against 85 lugs for the 7-season average. Furthermore, since the period covered by the cost study, there has been a marked decline in the exchange value of the Mexican silver peso.

Because of the non-representativeness of the period covered by the investigation, and the uncertainty of the effect of the decreased value of Mexican currency on the costs of production in Mexico, the commission did not specify any change in the present rate of duty of 3 cents per pound.

PEPPERS

Imports of peppers are important during the months December to April, inclusive. Imports have amounted to over 400 carloads annually, about evenly divided between Cuba and Mexico, and domestic shipments have amounted to about 1,200 carloads per season during the import period. New York City is by far the most important market, receiving a total of over 800 carloads annually during the import period, of which one-fourth are imported. Cuba was found to be the principal competing country.

Domestic costs were obtained in Broward and Lee counties, Florida, and foreign costs on the Isle of Pines, in two areas on the main island of Cuba, and at two points on the west coast of Mexico.

The season 1930-31 was found to be abnormal both for the domestic and foreign areas studied, but the crop year 1929-30 was representative for both countries. Data for the season 1929-30 showed the cost of domestic peppers delivered to New York, the principal competing market, was 6.9 cents per pound and for the Cuban peppers the corresponding cost was 4.9 cents per pound.

Based on these costs, the commission found that the present duty on peppers from Cuba of 2.4 cents per pound should be reduced to 2 cents and that the general rate on peppers should be decreased from 3 to 2.5 cents per pound.

GREEN PEAS

Practically all imports of fresh green peas come from Mexico. For the months December to March, inclusive, which is the import season, total imports averaged during the last five seasons 1,350 carloads and domestic shipments 1,000 carloads. New York City is the principal competing market, using annually 730 carloads of Mexican peas as compared with 350 carloads from California, and 60 from Florida, during the months December to March, inclusive.

California produces about 95 per cent of domestic shipments of green peas during the winter months. Costs were obtained in the Imperial Valley, which is the only area in California making regular shipments during the import period. In Mexico costs were obtained at Cajeme and Navojoa, which ship about 90 per cent of the peas received from Mexico.

The commission found that domestic costs for the two seasons 1929-30 and 1930-31 of green peas delivered at New York were 12.7 cents per pound, and the corresponding cost for the imported was 8.8 cents per pound or a cost difference of 3.9 cents per pound. Were it possible to evaluate the advantages accruing to the domestic producers because of the further depreciation in Mexican exchange since the cost period the excess of domestic over Mexican cost would presumably be increased.

The duty has been increased from 3 cents to 3.9 cents per pound.

SNAP OR STRING BEANS

For snap beans, the competitive season falls in the four months December to March, inclusive. Imports have averaged for the past three seasons the equivalent of 168 carloads during this period, as compared with shipments of 1,770 carloads of domestic beans. The principal markets for the domestic are New York and Chicago, New York alone taking 800 carloads during the import season. The imports from Mexico are largely marketed from Laredo, Texas, the port of entry, and distributed to Texas cities by express. For the period studied, there appears to have been no important market where the domestic and imported beans actually met in competition.

Domestic costs were obtained on the east coast of Florida, in Broward County and in the lake region of Palm Beach County. These sections produce practically all of the snap beans shipped from Florida during the import season. In Mexico costs were obtained at Manuel on the east coast, an area which produces over 50 per cent of the Mexican production.

The commission found the domestic costs of production during the seasons 1929-30 and 1930-31 of snap beans to be 10.3 cents per pound delivered at New York City and Chicago. Costs of the imported beans were 8.1 cents per pound delivered at Laredo, Texas.

The commission did not, however, specify any change in the present duty of 3½ cents per pound because of the uncertainty of the effect on costs in Mexico of the depreciation in Mexican currency which has occurred since the period covered by the cost study.

EGGPLANT

Eggplant is imported almost exclusively from Cuba and enters the United States principally between December 1 and April 1. During the past three seasons imports averaged about 250 carloads, while the domestic shipments of full carloads averaged about 21 carloads but amounted to probably three times that much, if express and mixed carload shipments were included. New York City is the chief competitive market because nearly all the imports, and practically all full carloads of domestic eggplant, are shipped there.

Domestic costs were obtained in Lee County, Florida, which produces practically all of the domestic winter eggplant, and foreign costs were secured on the Isle of Pines and in the vicinity of Herradura and Guira on the mainland of Cuba.

The season 1930-31 was found to be abnormal for the domestic area studied, but the crop year 1929-30 was representative for both countries. The commission found the cost of production for the season 1929-30 of eggplant in Florida, delivered at New York City to be 4.5 cents per pound, and the corresponding cost of Cuban eggplant to be 3.8 cents per pound.

Basing its decision upon costs for the 1929-30 season, the commission found that the rate of duty on eggplant imported from Cuba should be reduced from 2.4 cents per pound to 1.2 cents, and that the general rate of 3 cents per pound should be reduced to 1.5 cents per pound.

LIMA BEANS

Imports are almost exclusively from Cuba and are limited to the months November to March, inclusive, by the Plant Quarantine and Control Administration of the Department of Agriculture on account of the danger of insect infestation of American bean fields. Imports have averaged about 2,500,000 pounds during the past six seasons. Florida pro-

duces a fall and a spring crop of lima beans. There is usually a little overlapping of domestic shipments and imports during November and early December, and again in March. New York City is the principal port at which Cuban lima beans are entered and is also the largest market for domestic lima beans.

Domestic costs were obtained in Palm Beach County, Florida, near Delray and Canal Point, and foreign costs in Cuba in an area situated about 15 miles southwest of the city of Havana.

The commission's investigation showed that costs of domestic lima beans delivered at New York City were 10.8 cents per pound for the seasons 1929-30 and 1930-31, and of the Cuban, 7.6 cents per pound. Conditions of production were found representative in both countries for the two-season period studied.

However, inasmuch as the domestic fall and spring crops and the imported winter crop do not meet to any substantial degree in competition, and the period of imports is further limited by the regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture, the commission did not specify any change in the present rate of duty of 3½ cents per pound on lima beans.

CUCUMBERS

Imports of field-grown cucumbers come mostly from Cuba and are confined practically to the period December 15 to March 15. During the past five seasons, Cuba shipped an average of 85 carloads annually to the United States, whereas the domestic fall crop of field-grown cucumbers were only 9 carloads. There is a fall and a spring crop grown in Florida. The fall crop is usually off the New York City market by mid-December, and the spring crop appears between March 15 and April 1 depending upon the weather. There is also considerable production of hothouse cucumbers in the United States during the import season, but the commission did not consider them like or similar to the imported field-grown, for purposes of section 336, because of their greater length, different appearance, distinctive grade and pack, and higher price. New York City is the principal market, receiving practically all of the imports as well as most of the domestic carload shipments during the import period.

Domestic costs for the 1929-30 and 1930-31 seasons were obtained for the fall crop in Hardee and Lee Counties, Florida, and for the spring crop in Sumter and Hardee Counties. Foreign costs were obtained for the winter crop of cucumbers on the Isle of Pines, which produces over 70 per cent of the Cuban exports to the United States. The two cost years were found to be apparently normal as to conditions of production in Cuba, but abnormal for the domestic areas studied.

The commission found that the costs of producing fall and spring cucumbers in Florida, delivered at New York, were 6.1 cents per pound, and of the Cuban winter crop, 6 cents per pound.

However, there did not appear to be any period when imported and domestic field-grown cucumbers meet in competition on the American market in substantial quantities, and the commission did not, therefore, specify any change in the present rate of duty, which is 3 cents per pound.

OKRA

Imports of long-podded okra, amounting to the equivalent of about 30 carloads per season, are almost entirely from Cuba, and appear on the New York market from November to June, inclusive, whereas the domestic shipments from Florida appear on the same market from June

to November, inclusive. Okra is largely a summer crop in Florida and a winter crop grown for export in Cuba, with only a slight overlapping of arrivals on the New York market at the beginning and end of the season.

Domestic costs of producing summer-grown okra were obtained at Ocala, Florida, and foreign costs of winter-grown okra in the vicinity of Artemisa, Cuba. Conditions of production were found to be apparently normal in both countries.

The commission found the costs of production for the seasons 1929-30 and 1930-31 of domestic long-podded okra delivered at New York City to be 7.7 cents per pound, and of the Cuban, 9.3 cents per pound, or an excess of Cuban costs over domestic of 1.6 cents per pound.

There did not appear, however, to be any period when there was substantial competition in the principal market between domestic and imported okra and the commission did not specify any change in the present rate of duty of 50 per cent ad valorem.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS VIRGINIA CHAIN STORE TAX

The U. S. Supreme Court on November 30 affirmed, without written opinion, the decision of the District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, denying a restraining order against the collection of a merchant's distributing house license tax imposed by the Virginia law. The rulings in the Indiana and South Carolina chain store tax cases were cited in the Court's decision. The Virginia statute, which was upheld, provides that "for every distributing house or place in this State (other than the house or place of manufacture), operated by any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of a merchant in this State, for the purpose of distributing goods, wares and merchandise among his or its retail stores, a separate merchant's license shall be required, and the goods, wares and merchandise distributed through such distributing house or place shall be regarded as purchases for the purpose of measuring the license tax."

GREEN AND WAX BEAN PACK

The 1931 pack of green beans, according to figures collected by the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, amounted to 4,871,271 cases on the basis of 24 No. 2 cans, as compared with 6,739,482 cases in 1930, a decrease of 27.7 per cent.

The 1931 pack of wax beans on the basis of 24 No. 2 cans amounted to 1,195,820 cases, as compared with 1,511,366 cases in 1930, a decrease of 20.8 per cent.

Of the 1931 figures, 95.3 per cent was based on pack figures reported by the individual canners. The remaining 4.7 per cent was based on estimates from sources believed to be reliable.

The following table shows the pack by states, in both stand-

ard cases and actual number of cases for the years 1930 and 1931:

	Standard Cases		Number of Cases	
	1930	1931	1930	1931
GREEN BEANS:				
Arkansas	150,254	103,402	140,503	97,789
Colorado	553,380	150,570	532,097	151,652
Delaware	142,096	134,046	131,885	125,764
Louisiana	131,061	46,261	119,319	41,548
Maine	227,588	132,613	214,578	128,017
Maryland	778,778	1,049,803	733,787	997,762
Michigan	307,076	357,052	291,759	345,384
Missouri	48,102	40,633	44,293	38,800
New York	1,026,048	821,110	991,008	794,256
Ohio	22,304	15,654	21,857	15,555
Oregon	200,807	124,558	244,762	111,100
Pennsylvania	328,870	416,870	301,896	404,246
South Carolina	161,160	68,748	148,642	63,201
Tennessee	141,646	103,783	107,150	89,055
Texas	122,947	25,238	94,237	24,481
Utah	332,814	34,897	318,221	34,367
Virginia	(*)	76,412	(*)	65,742
Washington	250,440	125,532	218,824	106,867
Wisconsin	676,550	490,426	639,123	472,005
Illinois	} 244,197	112,945	230,073	104,843
Indiana				
Kentucky				
Others	820,749	433,458	779,039	402,102
Totals	6,739,482	4,871,271	6,310,373	4,615,286
WAX BEANS:				
Colorado	141,981	69,474	137,270	67,264
Maine	98,631	100,454	93,716	94,096
Maryland	43,780	21,159	42,213	20,590
Michigan	189,016	186,502	178,026	178,074
New York	467,601	322,561	470,966	318,840
Pennsylvania	24,223	42,797	23,714	42,223
Wisconsin	418,677	344,578	401,619	334,906
Others	127,457	108,295	119,813	105,256
Totals	1,511,366	1,195,820	1,467,331	1,161,852

(*) Included with "Others."

The total pack of green and wax beans, by principal sizes of containers, in 1930 and 1931, is shown in the following table:

Size	No. to case	Green beans		Wax beans	
		1930 Cases	1931 Cases	1930 Cases	1931 Cases
No. 55	48	91,480	53,678	67,019	28,520
No. 1	48	195,418	80,388	77,353	49,728
No. 2	24	4,821,416	3,684,297	1,126,960	947,393
No. 2½	24	160,241	109,737		
No. 10	6	959,749	645,042	180,676	116,756
Miscellaneous		82,060	42,144	15,294	19,455
Total		6,310,373	4,615,286	1,467,331	1,161,852

FARM PRICE INDEX HIGHER ON NOVEMBER 15

The index of farm prices rose from 68 to 71 per cent of the pre-war level between October 15 and November 15, check-

ing a steady two-year decline in prices received by farmers for their products, according to the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This is the most pronounced upward movement the index has shown since August, 1929. On November 15 last year the index was 103.

The greatest increases were in grains, cotton and cottonseed and poultry products, balancing declines in meat animal prices and a slight decrease in the fruit and vegetable group, which dropped two points from the October 15 level. The sharpest rise was shown in wheat prices, which advanced about 40 per cent during the month.

REPORT ISSUED ON FLORIDA TRUCK CROP COMPETITION

The State Agricultural Experiment Station at Gainesville, Fla., has issued as Bulletin 224, a study of Florida truck crop competition. The study was made to bring out the week-to-week competition between Florida growers and producers from other states, as well as some foreign countries. It is thought that with this information Florida growers will be in a better position to plan their plantings, in order to reduce to a minimum the disastrous peaks of overproduction. Both charts and tables are given for each of the fifteen crops covered in the report. The detailed data from which the charts were prepared is included as an appendix for the benefit of those who desire to make further studies.

UNSOLD STOCKS OF CANNED SALMON ON OCTOBER 31

The Association of Pacific Fisheries reports that unsold stocks of canned salmon on October 31, 1931, as based upon reports of canners who packed approximately 85 per cent of the 1931 pack, amounted to 3,340,411 cases, or 63 per cent more than unsold stocks on the same date a year ago.

The stocks on hand on October 31, this year, consisted of the following items: Pinks, 60 per cent; Alaska reds, 18 per cent; chums 7 per cent; cohoes, silvers or medium reds, 7 per cent; chinooks or kings, 5 per cent; and Puget Sound sockeyes, bluebacks, and steelheads, the remaining 3 per cent.

EXPORTS OF CANNED FOODS IN OCTOBER

Shipments of canned foods to foreign countries in October were somewhat smaller than in the corresponding month of last year, except canned meats and fruits. The most pronounced increases in fruits were in apricots, loganberries, fruits for salad, peaches and pears. The export figures as compiled by the Department of Commerce follow:

Articles	October, 1930		October, 1931	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
Canned meats, total.....	1,096,922	\$385,077	1,490,368	\$396,481
Beef	98,984	43,611	151,794	39,741
Pork	753,230	270,974	1,161,101	317,842
Sausage	84,307	22,582	89,252	20,165
Other	100,401	47,910	88,221	18,733
Canned vegetables, total.....	5,864,913	572,969	3,450,717	311,137
Asparagus	1,369,070	211,835	829,079	119,757
Baked beans, and pork and beans.....	1,316,994	69,439	893,322	53,158
Corn	473,031	35,635	324,823	22,936
Peas	455,108	44,775	339,115	29,270
Soups	1,455,142	150,363	307,109	36,036
Tomatoes	405,317	27,149	523,726	27,622
Other	390,251	39,803	232,883	22,358
Condensed milk	1,718,347	282,563	1,179,700	195,109
Evaporated milk	4,718,305	406,124	3,610,212	275,094
Canned fruits, total.....	26,200,972	2,448,028	39,794,342	3,049,407
Apples and applesauce.....	1,214,793	55,821	1,825,333	83,130
Apricots	1,974,085	172,330	3,836,088	259,191
Loganberries	512,283	59,041	1,230,050	108,583
Other berries	198,759	31,438	298,533	45,866
Cherries	162,583	25,553	68,834	8,328
Fruits for salad.....	3,079,935	502,837	5,212,800	622,814
Grapefruit .....	.....	.....	361,968	26,946
Peaches	7,679,733	607,553	10,920,192	761,168
Pears	6,703,185	580,683	14,214,052	972,325
Pineapple	3,140,326	322,497	1,380,807	121,961
Prunes	359,963	31,828	245,553	22,109
Other	576,227	58,447	193,532	16,986
Salmon	3,804,336	703,632	3,087,342	504,353
Sardines	10,062,288	704,303	3,350,833	234,768

TRUCK CROP SHIPMENTS

Carlot movement of 27 fruits and vegetables reached the low total of 12,115 cars during the week ended November 28, or 2,000 less than shipments of a year ago. Potato shipments were sharply curtailed and required only 2,550 cars for the week. Apple movement dropped to 1,925 cars. Cabbage output was only 475 and onions only 435 cars.

Orange forwardings were slightly reduced to 1,720 cars and were 500 less than a year ago. California orange movement increased to 1,240 while Florida decreased to about 435 cars and Alabama to 30. Output of grapefruit decreased a little to 720 carloads, of which Florida supplied 590, Texas 110, and Arizona 10 cars. Mixed-citrus shipments, chiefly from Florida, required 400 cars during the week.

Movement of cauliflower from California decreased to 85 carloads and Oregon's shipments dropped to 70. Probably as a result of the freeze in Imperial Valley, California, movement of green peas was suddenly reduced to a dozen cars. The Florida pea season began with 3 cars. Shipments of Florida snap beans held around 375, compared with 180 carloads a year ago. Texas spinach movement increased greatly to 135 cars, while Norfolk, Virginia, forwarded 30 and Maryland 15 cars.

Southern California moved only 20 cars of tomatoes, or about the same as Florida, while Texas increased to 50 carloads. First arrivals were reported from Cuba and Mexico.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Nov. 22-28, 1931	Nov. 15-21, 1931	Nov. 23-29, 1930	Total this season thru Nov. 28	Total last season thru Nov. 20	Total last season
Apples, total	1,926	3,079	2,576	62,198	74,606	109,793
Eastern states	1,109	1,733	1,132	36,234	31,582	43,256
Western states	817	1,346	1,444	25,964	43,024	66,537
Beans, snap and lima:						
1932 season	377	370	179	1,594	1,237	9,308
1931 season	8	19	7	9,308	9,550	9,550
Beets:						
1932 season	44	36	.....	126	.....	1,606
1931 season	5	3	.....	1,606	.....	.....
Cabbage:						
1932 season	39	18	30	61	61	32,569
1931 season	434	647	322	32,569	32,153	38,294
Carrots:						
1932 season	88	138	198	802	1,090	9,977
1931 season	27	54	50	9,977	10,815	12,437
Cauliflower	156	241	305	3,434	3,445	9,611
Cucumbers	17	20	37	6,448	7,640	7,063
Mixed vegetables	322	328	374	26,093	28,825	31,180
Pears	67	191	152	18,408	27,115	28,835
Peas (green)	14	106	114	297	744	7,149
Peppers:						
1932 season	47	39	59	140	222	2,819
1931 season	2	9	9	2,819	2,774	2,786
Spinach:						
1932 season	169	58	164	240	495	9,659
1931 season	29	28	3	9,659	9,629	9,636
Tomatoes:						
1932 season	22	6	54	32	126	27,633
1931 season	73	111	67	27,633	33,867	34,959

TOMATO NAMED PRITCHARD AS MEMORIAL TO BREEDER

The last wilt-resistant tomato variety developed by the late Fred J. Pritchard, internationally known tomato breeder with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is to bear his name as a memorial to his work, the department has announced.

Mr. Pritchard had practically completed the development of this new variety just before his death in January, 1931, and the Bureau of Plant Industry had sent out numerous small lots of seed for test under the name of Scarlet Topper. The department this winter is arranging for such contacts with experienced tomato seed producers as may be expected to provide adequate stocks of seed in the near future. Requests for Scarlet Topper tomato seed are filled under the name Pritchard.

This new tomato is highly wilt-resistant, and promises to be widely adopted in the Atlantic Coast tomato regions. Two other varieties developed by Mr. Pritchard are the Marglobe and Break o' Day, both of which are widely grown. The Pritchard

was developed at the Arlington farm of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

JAPANESE SALMON PACK

The total 1931 salmon pack as reported up to October 15 amounts to 1,187,683 cases, according to figures reported by the American assistant trade commissioner at Tokyo.

BUSINESS INDICATORS

(Weeks ended Saturday; weekly average 1923-1925=100)

	1931			1930		
	Nov. 28	Nov. 21	Nov. 14	Nov. 20	Nov. 22	Nov. 15
Composite Index:*						
New York Times.....	63.2	64.6	82.0	79.0	80.4	
Business Week.....	66.1	65.9	80.4	80.9	78.6	
Freight car loadings.....	68.2	72.0	73.2	81.3	86.5	
Wholesale prices (Fisher's):						
All commodities.....	67.8	68.6	68.6	80.6	80.8	82.2
Agricultural products.....	52.2	53.7	53.9	77.5	78.7	81.3
Non-agricultural products.....	70.0	70.2	70.2	80.3	80.3	81.3
Bank debits outside New York City.....	74.0	91.5	66.5	96.1	120.7	100.7
Bond prices.....	92.8	95.0	96.3	106.5	106.7	106.5
Stock prices.....	85.5	92.7	101.7	104.0	106.0	161.0
Interest rates:						
Call money.....	60.6	57.7	60.6	48.5	48.5	48.5
Time money.....	80.0	85.7	91.4	62.9	62.9	62.9
Business failures.....	120.9	144.5	130.5	113.3	139.8	121.6

*Relative to a computed normal taken as 100.

†Revised.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise L. C. L.	Other
Week ended November 21....	653,503	234,269	209,032	210,202
Previous week.....	690,366	251,576	207,409	231,291
Corresponding week, 1930....	779,752	292,340	229,521	257,891
Corresponding week, 1929....	949,716	351,810	257,825	240,081

RATE OF SEEDING FOR PEAS

A pamphlet on the rate of seeding for peas has been issued by the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Idaho as Bulletin No. 181. Results of seeding experiments, as reported in the bulletin, show that four to five plants per square foot produce the highest yield, regardless of variety, and that a determination of the number of seeds per pound gives the most accurate index to rate of seeding.

MARKET FOR CANNED GOODS IN SINGAPORE

A radiogram to the Department of Commerce from the assistant trade commissioner at Singapore states: "Australian canned peaches, apricots and pears arriving in increased quantities. Demand shifting from American goods due to exchange. Diminished quantities ordered for dealers' replacements."

ARGENTINE CANNED FRUIT IMPORTS

Argentine imports of fruits preserved in juice or simple syrup during the first half of 1931 totaled 41,616 pounds, valued at \$13,115. Imports for the entire year 1930 were 219,748 pounds, valued at \$69,255.

Of fruits preserved natural or in water the imports for the first half of 1931 were 30,399 pounds, valued at \$6,386. For the year 1930 the imports were 130,115 pounds, valued at \$27,338.

DANISH CABBAGE STOCKS

The estimate of total stocks of Danish cabbage on hand November 1, 1931, is 128,591 tons, compared with 141,529 tons on hand November 1, 1930, and with 138,147 tons on hand the same date in 1929. Holdings on November 1, 1931, were 9 per cent below those on the same date in 1930 and 7 per cent below those of 1929. Estimated production of Danish cabbage in 1931 is below the relatively small production of each of the three years preceding 1931 and is the lowest since 1923.

The estimate of total stocks represents total holdings in the hands of both growers and dealers on November 1 and consists of cabbage in both farm and commercial storage. Reports from growers and dealers indicate that 56 per cent of the November 1 stocks this year were in the hands of growers and 44 per cent in the hands of dealers. Similar reports in 1930 indicated 63 per cent in the hands of growers and 37 per cent in the hands of dealers; in 1929 the indicated percentages in the hands of growers and dealers were 64 per cent and 36 per cent, respectively.

Total stocks estimated on hand November 1 represent that part of the commercial crop which was available on that date for movement to market by rail, boat or truck, for sale locally and for farm consumption, and includes loss after November 1 through shrinkage and spoilage.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES IN THE UNITED STATES

According to a preliminary count of families just completed by the Census Bureau, there were 29,980,146 families in the United States in April, 1930.

The population per family in 1930 was 4.1, as compared with 4.3 in 1920, indicating an appreciable decrease in the average size of the family in the ten-year period. The average population per family in 1910 was 4.5; in 1900, 4.7; and in 1890, 4.9. The total number of families returned in 1930 represents an

increase of 5,628,470, or 23.1 per cent, as compared with the 24,351,676 families reported in 1920.

The term "family," as used in this preliminary count, signifies a group of persons, whether related by blood or not, who live together as one household, usually sharing the same table. One person living alone is counted as a family, and at the other extreme, all the inmates of an institution, or all the persons living in a boarding house, are ordinarily counted as one family.

Among the States, the average population per family was largest in North Carolina, 4.9, while South Carolina was second with 4.7. The smallest population per family was 3.5, in California and Nevada. The greatest decreases in population per family were from 4.6 to 4.2 in both Oklahoma and Texas, and from 4.5 to 3.9 in the District of Columbia.

CORRECTION

The item in last week's Letter regarding tomato products imports contained several errors in the introduction to the table of imports by months. The imports of canned tomatoes during the first ten months of 1931 were about 20,560,000 pounds greater than in the corresponding period of 1930. Receipts of tomato paste were about 789,000 pounds greater in the 1931 period, although the imports for October this year were about 129,000 pounds less than in October, 1930.

CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Duty on green beans to be increased	2757	Tomato named Pritchard as memorial to breeder	2765
Supreme Court upholds Virginia chain store tax	2761	Japanese salmon pack	2766
Green and wax bean pack	2761	Business indicators	2766
Farm price index higher on November 15	2762	Rate of seeding for peas	2766
Report issued on Florida truck crop competition	2763	Market for canned goods in Singapore	2766
Unsold stocks of canned salmon on October 31	2763	Argentine canned fruit imports	2767
Exports of canned foods in October	2763	Danish cabbage stocks	2767
Truck crop shipments	2764	Number of families in the United States	2767
		Correction	2768